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11 December 1984

NOTE FOR: C/NIC

FROM: Hal Ford

SUBJECT: Your Request re 1984 Accomplishments of the NIC

1. Produced some 80 coordinated interagency estimates in various forms, an increase over the 73 completed in the preceding year.

2. As part of that production, increased the proportion of fast track estimates.

3. Produced three especially sensitive, policy-related (vulnerability) studies.

4. Instituted a new series publication, the NIC Threat Outlook (four such thus far), outside distribution limited to the President and four other top policymakers.

5. Estimates completed during the year were rather evenly divided between quickly-produced assessments on time-sensitive topics and more extensive longer-range projections on issues of lasting US national security concern.

6. Particular specific examples of estimates' known specific impact on senior policymakers include: the chances of sudden extreme Soviet initiatives in the world; the (pessimistic) outlook for Lebanon; the (ominous) implications of continued Pakistani work toward a nuclear weapon; the El Salvador elections; the outlook for Nicaragua; international narcotic money flows; the international heroin market; the integration of intelligence on terrorism into specific counter-terrorism measures; and prospects for US-Chinese relations during the President's visit to China.

7. The NIOs provided numerous briefings and judgments on developments in their areas to senior policymakers, including the President, the Vice President, the Secretaries of State and Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, and other senior officials of the executive and Congressional branches.

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8. Increased specific NIC guidance to collectors. Particular known examples include narcotic crop production estimates, terrorism, social and political trends in Mexico, and the same for the Third World in general.

9. The NIOs also increased their participation in special ad hoc activities. This included such efforts as accompanying the Secretary of Defense on his trip to East Asia, helping prepare the President for his trip to China, chairing US delegations to NATO Economics Committee meetings in Brussels, and conducting individual meetings on S&T matters with the executive officers of some 15 major corporations.


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